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PATENT *A*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Austin
Serial No.:	Not yet assigned
Filed:	Concurrently herewith
For:	An Apparatus for Contracting or Crimping Stents
Examiner:	Not yet assigned
Group Art Unit:	Not yet assigned

Box Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No.: S63.2-10142

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Before beginning examination and calculating the fees in this application, please amend the above-identified application as indicated below:

In the Specification:

A1 On page 1 of the application, please insert a new heading after the Title, --Cross-Reference to Related Applications-- and insert as text on the next line thereafter as follows:

A2 This application is a Continuation application from Application No. 09/401,218 filed September 22, 1999, the contents of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 16 of the specification with the following text:

A3 -- Actuation device 138 includes a rotatable actuation plate 142 which is co-axial with reference circle 114. Rotatable actuation plate includes cam slots 146 which are not concentric with the axis of rotation, arcing inward. Each connecting link 130 is engaged to actuation plate 146 via a cam follower bearing 150 disposed in slot 146 and attached to both angled end 134 of connecting link 130 and to a linear slide 154. Linear slide 154 is mounted on a non-rotating plate similar to that shown in Figure 8. Linear slide 154 is constructed and arranged to slide along a radial line 158 on which radial point 122 of blade 106 lies. --